

## Allegra “Happy” Haynes



### Education

East High School, Denver 1971

Barnard College, Columbia University, New York City, BA Political Science, cum laude, 1975

University of Denver School of Law 1978 – 1981

University of Colorado at Denver, Master of Public Affairs 2002

### Employment History

September 2015 – present, Executive Director of Denver Parks and Recreation and Deputy Mayor, City & County of Denver, Colorado – Serve on the Mayor’s Cabinet; manage operations, administration, planning, personnel, finances and policies of a large executive department; oversee development, programming and maintenance of over 250 parks, 6,000 acres of urban parks, 14,000 acres of mountain property, 28 recreational facilities, 31 swimming pools, 156 playgrounds, and 7 golf courses; manage a workforce of over 500 full time employees, an annual operating budget of \$76 million and a capital budget of \$16 – \$20 million annually; create and cultivate interdepartmental projects and external partnerships; represent the City as Deputy Mayor on the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District.

June 2011 – September 2015, Director of Civic and Community Engagement, CRL Associates - Provide strategic advice and support on community engagement strategies, policy development, and leadership and capacity building; conduct research and analyses on issues relating to education, early childhood and youth development and partnerships for healthy and sustainable communities.

November 2011 – 2019, Elected member of the Denver Public Schools Board of Education – Provide strategic vision and goals, policy management and fiscal oversight of a district of 90,000 students and 10,000 employees; Served as President of the Board from 2013 - 2015.

October 2005 – April 2011, Chief Community Engagement Officer, Denver Public Schools, City and County of Denver – Serve on Superintendent’s leadership team; manage external affairs and provide strategic direction for engaging parents and community; develop strategic partnerships; manage legislative affairs and oversee contract lobbyist; manage the Office of Community Engagement with a staff of 24, including the Office of Parent Engagement, the School Partners Program, the City-DPS Collaborative and 30 – 50 AmeriCorps members.

July 2003 – September 2005, Liaison to City Council, Office of Mayor John Hickenlooper, City and County of Denver – Oversaw legislative affairs for the Mayor; prepared and facilitated departmental presentations and briefings before Council committees; managed communications between the Mayor, City departments and members of the City Council.

April 1990 – July 2003, City Councilwoman, District 11, City and County of Denver, City Council President 1998-2000 – Represented city’s largest Council District of over 50,000 people for 13 years; developed policy and legislative solutions to address major city issues; helped constituents navigate city government and solve problems; chaired Airport Committee and led approval processes for financing and construction of Denver International Airport as well as the redevelopment of the former Stapleton Airport.

1992 – 1993, Co-Executive Director, Year One, later Mile High Youth Corps, Denver, Colorado, non-profit youth-serving agency – Founding board member; served as interim executive to launch the new program until national search for permanent executive director was completed; recruited and managed 24 youth corps members; developed community service projects and provided educational programs to support to corps members.

January 1993 – 1997, Senior Associate, National Civic League, Denver Colorado – Served as a consultant, providing facilitation, diversity training and strategic planning to various communities throughout Colorado and the U.S. through the Healthy Communities Initiative.

June 1984 – March 1990, Administrative Assistant to Mayor Federico Peña, City and County of Denver, Colorado – Recruited, screened and managed the City’s boards and commissions appointments; cultivated and managed relationships with neighborhoods, the business community organizations; served as project manager in Public Works Department establishing and managing special districts and business improvement districts, including establishment of the Cherry Creek North and Downtown BID’s.

September 1979 – May 1984, Legislative Aide to Councilman Bill Roberts, City and County of Denver, Colorado – Provided research and policy analysis support; responded to constituent concerns and made recommendations for policy changes to address major problems.

January 1975 – January 1979, Staff Assistant to Lt. Governor George Brown, State of Colorado – assisted in creation of State’s first ombudsman office; opened satellite offices in two additional Colorado cities; oversaw legislative and intergovernmental affairs for the office and provided case management for the Department of Corrections and Human Services cases.

### **Civic Involvement**

The Trust for Public Land – Colorado Advisory Board, past Chair  
Museum of Nature and Science, Board of Trustees  
Denver Zoological Foundation, Board of Governors  
Rocky Mountain PBS/KUVO (past) Board of Directors  
Stapleton Development Corporation  
Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities, Board of Directors  
Center for African American Health, (past) Board of Directors  
City Park Jazz, (past) Board of Directors  
Colorado Children’s Campaign, (past) Board Vice-chair  
Colorado Commission on Higher Education (past)  
The Nature Conservancy, (past) Colorado Chapter Trustee  
Denver Welfare Reform Board (past) Founding Board  
State Parks Board (past)  
Mile High Youth Corps, (past) Founding Board of Directors  
Foundation for Educational Excellence, (past) Founding Board of Directors  
City Park Alliance, (past) Founding Board of Directors  
Sand Creek Regional Greenway, (past) Founding Board of Directors  
Colorado Black Women for Political Action, (past) Founding Board of Directors

### **Awards and Honors**

Woman of the Year, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, 1983  
Colorado Black Women for Political Action Political Award, 1984  
NOBEL/Women Leadership Institute Leadership Award, 2002  
Swanee Hunt Individual Leadership Award, 2003  
Anti-Defamation League Torch of Liberty Award, 2004  
Urban Peak Maverick Thinkers Award, 2006  
Metro Volunteers Community Impact award, 2015

### **Professional Activities**

Leadership Denver Graduate, 1979  
Denver Community Leadership Forum Graduate, 1987  
Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government State & Local Program, 1992